

oil one week from tomorrow night, which | to Mr. Florence; is all but the let of September. On that evening Robert Downing will inaugurate nother starring season at the Academy will present plays familiar to his repersure and one bovelty, by a St. Louis newspaper man, "favid Laroque." The Academy will this year cut a quarter of of Reprices, and engage in the conflict with the Grant for supremacy as Washington's most attractive popular-priced playbouse. The Grand opens on the same evening as

the Academy, the attraction being Grad's Vandevilles. This bouse surprised some people with the unusually fine character of its attractions, as published in this on last Sanday. Among the rousing the public hardly expected to find Minnie Maddern-Fiske with her presentation of Thomas Hardy's "Tess of the l'Urberand Francis Wilson in his opera

These bookings are significant nean that Mrs. Fiske and Mr. Wilson lave refused to submit to the dictation of the eyadicate, and bence had to go to a rousyndicate theater.

The other theaters will not open until the middle of September. When the doors do swing it will be to see the Castle Square Opera Congrany for four weeks, at popular prices, at the Columbia, Maude Adar is in-augurating her stellar four at the Laft vecto. but the Kational has not vet appointed as

The storm center of theatrical interest is always at this time of the year in New York city. However quiet it may be other wheres, it is always above period in Gotham. where nearly all the enterprises organize and whence nearly all decamp.

The Rinko is in its glory at present This interesting portion of the metropolis extends from Thirty-third street to Forty second street. It is at present crowded with actors, agents and managers. But It is a mistaken idea to suppose that you can walk the Blakto and find familiar faces. None of the prominent actors are seen there. The limits is merely a rendervous for a class of players who cannot command engagements, and have to beg them-

They want about the agencies in the hope of seeing managers who come to transnot business, or they lay in wait for the poorer class of managers who stand about on the pavements, with their office in their hat. The sidewalk slong the Right is a kind of clearing house for the poor netor and the presponsible manager.

The picture-sque features of the Rialto

have disappeared. It was really a sight when the rendezvous was further downtown near Madison Square. Those were days before the actor dressed and acted lies names beings. They were the days when he brought the atmosphere of ro-mance and tragedy onto the sidewalk, with his enped overcont and his flowing locks. This man only survives in farce comedier and the comic papers.

. The activities preparatory to the sea son indecates that there is still a wide spread belief in the potency of Shakespeare and the classic drama, in spite of those who ery, "enough," and say its day is done. Outs Skinner, although he would fain bitch his wagon to the star of romance. will have to play Handet, Shylock and His readings of these roles are so exquisitely superb that the public de Let some one of a speculative turn buy his fouse the next time he an-nonness Hamlet in Washington. He will make money. The memory of that night is one of the enduring pleasures of last

But Skinner will try a new to

The author is unnamed

but it is probably bimself. The Skinners are accomplished play makers. Our brother wrote "Villon, the Vagabond." Walker Whiteside will play his usu. Stakespearean repertoire with the addition of Stanier Treyman's "Man in Black." Robert Forming will play classics with a new play, "Fuvid Latoque" Fred Ward-will hold to "King Lear" and "Shylock," but he will try a new piece in "Iskander Louis James will retain the classic play-

and will try a novelty. James O'Neil wil not swerve from "Virginius" and "Hamlet-Robert Mantell will play Othelio and Romeo Creston Clarke will return to an unalloyed classic repertoire.

Besides these the road will have Shakes

pears, interpret-slby James Young Thomas Keene, Ellin Spencer and Edwin Rostelle Among the ladies Ada Renan, Julia Mar-lowe, Modjeska and possibly, Maude Adams will be seen in Sinkespearenn parts. So, fle upo t the man who says Shake-pear

is dead. Here is a list of sixteen companies which will autost on Shakespean this season. And in the vemacular, there

What indomitable will is possessed by Lalling Lewis. The woman simply refuse to down. Last year she put on, after having written the play herself, "An In-Sinner." It was generally consid end just about the worst play that was moduced, and Miss Lewis' perform ance of the simpering beroine was about the one redeeming feature of the showit was so bilariously amosing. Then sh rote and produced "The Widow Goldstein." It was a failure, flatter if anything, than the desert of Sahara

Now also is ntit again. She is going to play 'For Liberty and Love' next year, and a Biblical drama called "Josephol Cana in " She deserves to succeed; such bamping up break a breach in the end. It would for usually have the reason of capacity. But this woman hasn't, and she probably doesn't know it, and don't believe anybody who

Marous Mayer will direct the tour of Look Mann, Clara Lipman and Charles Dickson in "The Prince and the Prima Donne," the first performance of which is listed for November I in this city. The New York run is announced by Managers Letterer and McLellan to begin November 29. The name of the theater secured for the presentation in New York is not divulged.

With the Intest and most pronounced Amer tens success yet achieved in Louisa, meaning, of course, the recent invasion by "Secret Service," It is interesting to revert to the incident of the first appearance of actors from America in England. They were Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Florence, Mrs. Florence last week told the story to the Mirror. She was a dancer when she married Mr. Florence.

But," says Mrs. Florence, "be told the that I was a born comedience, and advised me to act instead of dance. After we were married, in 1883, he wrote a farce for me called 'The Yankee Bone keeper.' It was a great success particolarly the songs which he wrote and I sang in the piece. I have no doubt that trere are a good many people who still remem-ber that quaint ditty, Bobbin' Aronal,' and also 'Mary Ann,' 'Keeno-Kino,' and 'Way hows in Maine.' I played a 'typkal gal.' The type of character and the style

The local theatrical pot will begin to | York and on a short tour. One day I said " Billy, let's do "The Yankee House-

keeper" over in London."
"What!" he exclaimed, opening his eyes wide. Then he burst into a laugh, and said no more about it. But a few days afterward he remarked:

"That wasn't such a tad idea of yours about giving "The Yankee Housekeeper" on the other side. I never heats of a typical Yankee gal being done over there, and it ought to be a go with the English-

"The upstart of the matter was that the Irish Boy and the Yanker Gal went sailing over the sea in the summer of 1854, and one night, about a month afterward, an extremely nervous young woman was standing in the wings of the Drusy Lane Theater waiting for the cue to make her debut as the first actress who had ever appeared before a British audience in the part of an American girl. I remember it all very vividly. The audience was a most brilliant one. The Queen and other members of the royalfamily werethere, besides any number of the nobility. They were all very curious about the 'Yankee Gal' that was to appear before them, most of them having never seen an American actress. And I think, too, that they were inclined to consider e somewhat presumptuous in coming out of the 'American wilderness' into the great city of London. So you see I didn't have the easiest kind of an audience to play to I had, you remember, come a long dis-tance, made great preparations for this pearance, and felt that my whole career epended upon the success of this one night. bo you wonder that I had a bad case of what the street boy calls the 'rattles.' When I peeped through a little window out into the audience and saw that great Queen sitting complacently in her box, I exclaimed to Angustus Harris, who was

"-Oh, heavens! I can never do it. Not for worlds would I go out there.'
"And I ran away, back into the green

room as far as I could get from those terrible creatures out in front. When my cue came, Mr. Harris caught me by the shoulders and poshed me by sheer force out onto the stage. The audience broke into a great laugh I must, indeed, have been an ing object as I stood down near the foot lights, howing and smiling in response to the laughter and the applause from the pit. I were a big grotesque hat, a large handker hief around my neck a short yellow dress and white stockings. In my hands I had a bird cage, a band box and an umbrella, and led a cat and a dog I was supposed to represent a typical Yankee girl and I think that most of the audience believed that my costume and general appearance was true to life. When the noise subsided. I said in a shrill voice: " Wall. I've come a long ways fer to see you; and hauw daou yo all daow?

"Then the laughter broke out afresh The pincid features of the Queen, who had been looking at me intently, relaxed into what I would call a bread grin, if it were not disrespectful to royalty, and a little boy in a selvet suit, whom I after ward learned was the Duke of York, known to fame in after years as Collars and Cuffs, turned to his august grandmamma and made some laughing remark. Then I sing their 'Pobbin' Around,' and, one after another, the other songs of my reper toire. I hadn't been on the stage five nanutes before I knew that I had scored and my feelings, when I realized this, were more than ample compensation for all the worry and all the preparation. They were feelings which can come to none but those who are held and auditious enough to play for a great stake. A day or two after my first appearance 'Fobian' Around' was sung wrote "A Soldier of Fortune" and his brother wrote "Wilson the Vagabond" and even the toys and girls of the court practiced on it. The words 'Fobbin' Around' became a slang expression."

> The bubitual theater patron reads with on eager interest the critical expression in the press upon plays and players that be has hinself seen and enjoyed and formed opinious about. But while the auditor stands on an equality with the actor in knowledge of what the critices my, the actor, in cases of rare stage achievement, enlays a fond of appreciation of which the puth may know nothing. This comes in the form of praise from individuals, some of then notable, others not in the public eye ber most of them, as a rule, sarely apt in pinions. It is a question, perhaps, wheth er an artist is betterpleased by the impul-sive and enthusiastic plaudits of an audience at the moment of triumph than by the sincere and discriminating praise of individuals, who, being moved by the play, are constrained afterward to give direct expression to the artist of the pleasur they have experienced in the theater.

> Mrs. Piske's achievement in "Tess of the d'Urbervilles," which will be seen in this city the coming season, affords a case in point The critics in New York last season were moved to unwonted en thusinsin by Mrs Fiske's work, but it was nothing more than a reflection of public enthusiasm over the notress, who deluged with letters of appreciation that case have pleased her as greatly as did the public applause she received. of the expressions in these letters, made by persons it public life, ledicate more clearly than anything else could the meas ure of Mrs Fiske's triumph in "T .s. Robert Ingersoll wrote: "We were all overpowered last night. Mrs. Fiske was marvelous. Her acting was trage, and even her laughter was filled with tears." Ella Wheeler Wilcox said in a letter: "I had read and lived with Tess so keenly

and dreaded to see it lest it be spoiled for me; but you were all the book and more. I never saw such wonderful work on the stage 2s you did that first night. France may have its Bernbardt and Italy its Duse; but I do not believe either of them ever did such marvelous work as yours in Tess." Hamlin Garland, the novelist, was quite "Permit me to thank you for your fine hast night of the finest literary feeling. whole play lays hold of the most vital and tragic themes of our day. Your own work was most original and natural in method. The unexpected appeared as in life, with illuminating effect." And ex-Postmaster General Thomas L. James had this to say: "I wish to congratulate you with all my heart for your great and realistic performance. You have given as a great dramatic creation, and I have no doubt that your portrayal of Tess will be-

Mr. Edward C. White, who is well known theatrically, makes the important announcement that he has secured all rights for producing last season's pronounced melo dramatic success, "Two Little Vagrants," tegether with its superb scenic investors and is now engaging a company that is promised to be equal to the requirements of each part assigned. One of the principals already engaged is Miss Mildred Holland, of the songs were new on the stage, and late of Augustine Daly's company, who hadn't took en were received with great fervor in 'ew will play Fan Fan. Dore Davidson will be sas City Star.

seen in his original part, Le Renard (the fox).

When Thomas Bailey Aldrich heard of Mos Julia Arthur's intention to return to her native country as a stellar attraction, he immediately gave her the manuscript of his drama, "Mercedes," assign ng to her all rights in it-in other words presenting her with the play, naming as a consideration his admiration of her genius. It was in "Mercedes" that Mis-Arthur made one of the most memorable weekses of her career in New York

Julia Arthur's manager, Arthur Lewis, has been completely inundated with manu script with roles intended for his bril-liant star. Most of these bear a note, saying: "I have written this play with Miss Arthur in view for the leading role, and have not been able to find another actres could play the part." This se be a flattering tribute to the young American girl's originality. Miss Arthur's intention is to only produce this season Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's play, "A Lady of Quality." Other plays which Miss Arthur has in hand, should she later desire to produce them, are Robert Buchanan' "A Nine Days" Queen," "Mercedes" and several powerful romantic dramas, of which quietly secured the rights while in

The first performance of the first play ly a new author. Washington Davis' mili tary comedy, "The Provost Guard," will be given next Thursday evening at Marble Hell Theater, National Soldiers' Home under the stage direction of Frank Bos worth. The subject of the play is that feature of military life which embraces the discipline of an army and the police power which is exercised in time of When a city is besieged by apposing a male and its civil authorities are unable to en force the civil laws, it is put under martia guard. Washington city was under the provost guard at one time during the civil war. Mr. Davis' play is the first which has ever attempted to delineate this, and, therefore has the virtue of novelty. The first act has its score in Washington city and the other three acts of the controlly are laid in Ken tucky. Mr. Bosworth was formerly with Edwin Booth and Lawrence Barress, and he has carefully drilled the cast. Military will be given by volunteer

The repertoire for the engagement of Mr. Robert Downing, which opens the season at the Academy of Music Monday evening, August 30, is as follows: Mon-day evening, "Virginius," with Mr. Downing in the title role; Adelaide Fitz Allen as Virginia; Harriet Sterling as Servia Engene Moore as Jeilius; Edward A. Hoys is Applus Claudius; C. W. Vance as Numa torius; Clement St. Martin as Dentatus The management promises an adequate cage setting, and every costume will be

iew for the production On Tuesday evening Mr. Downing will appear as the dusky Moor in "Othello," and for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday nights, and Saturday matinee, he will present for the first time on any stage on entire new play, entitled "David Laroque," by Mr. George S. Johns, editor of the St Louis Post-Disputch, and a framatic critic of many years' standing For the Saturday night and closing erformance Mr. Downing will presen "The Gladiator" in its entirety.

Mr. W. A. McConnell, manager for Rob ert Downing, has made clear a point in the production of new pieces in this city which has often caused Washingtonians to wonder. "Let me explain." said Mr. Mc Connell. "You know Charles Frohman is a very astute and far-seeing manager. Just now he is very much interested in the art of Maude Adams, who is said to be the Ellen Terry of America. Well, Mr Frohman will bring Miss Adams to Wash ngton and open a new play, called 'The Little Minister,' at the Lafa yette Opera House, on Sentember 13, and then he will wait a week before playing any other date Why? Because there are in Washington city very able critics from all parts of the country, and their combined judgment s almost infallible.

Washington has come to be the national capital of dramatic art as well as of polities, and when its approval is put upon a piece a manager knows whether the piece will be a financial success or not. It takes about a week after its first performance for all the points in a new play to be judged carefully. Your city is not sed as a dog by smart managers, but occupies the beach as a judge."

If Mr. Nat C. Goodwin carries out his present ideas his coming season will be one of work. It is his intention to open with "An American Citizen," by Madeline Lucette Ryley, and later produce "Treadway, of Yale," by Augustus Thomas, and "Richard Savage," by Madeline Lucette hyley. Mr. Goodwin and Miss Elliott also contemplate making a production of "Merebant of Venice" and "Midsumport Night's Dream." Mr. Goodwin and his cading lady bave received offers from bree different London managers to remain over there on a certainty, but existing con tracts in America forbid their accepting any of these offers, although it is more than probable that one of them will be accepted for next year

The attractions this season at the Grand Opera House are booked in connection with the Bijon circuit of theaters, comprising the Star Theater of New York, Bijou of Brooklyn, National of Philadelphia, Columbia of Boston, Holiday Street of Baltimore Bijou of Pittsburg, Albambra of Chicago an d the Walnut Street of Cincinnati

The Grand's opening attraction next week is Grau's Vaudevilles. This was the last company to play in the house The list of names is entirely new, however It includes a series of variety performers whose reputation has given their name each its own value. Among them are Lew Dockstader, Sam J. Ryan, Kittle Mitch ell and Dora Wiley Who are known to Who knows the name of any

"White Crook" at Kernau's.

The White Crook Burlesquers, another of those popular diversions, will be Manager Kernan's attraction at the Lycenn this week. Manager Kernan claims this organization as being one of his best bookings, it being thoroughly up to date in every department, lavish in its dis-play of scenic embellishments, appropriate costumes and elaborate electrical effects. The company is one of select-and merito rious burlesque and vaudeville talent. The curtain rices on a new nautical burletta. entitled the "The U. S. Yacht Club." a humorous satire brightened with catchy music. The olio which follows is made up of Valmore, the instrumental man: the Misses Bender and Wybie, the American chastonettes; James Dixon, character come-dian; Dolan and Mitchell, refined travesty stars, and Brannen and Williams, come dians and authors. The performance conchides with a new and original buriesque entitled "The Kiondike Millionaires," in troducing a chorus of very pretty girls be mattness Tuesday, Thursday and Sat-

Explanation of the Eclipse. Commenting on a recent eclipse an old negro said: "De sun been a-hearin' all dis cussin' 'bout hot weather, en he 'bout make up his min' dat he'd tu'n loose en give de worl' somepin' ter talk about; en Lawd only knows what he would a-done ef de moon hadn't took en come between 'em!"-KanAMUSEMENTS.

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OTHER HOGS TO COME.

There was a sign on the door of the ticket office in the depot at Tarbell of "No admission," and a native North Carolinian stood about ten feet a Way and read the sign three or four times over to himself. Then he slowly advanced and opened the door and said; want to see the boss of this rail-

"Didn't you see the sign on the door?" lemanded the agent. I did, but I want to see the boss."

Then go up to Wilmington "Too fur, and I haven't time. Say, Mister, this railroad killed one of my hawge yesterday, and I want damages." "I've nothing to do with that!" shouted the agent. "File your claim and let it take its course."

"Where do I file?"
"Anywhere you want to, but don't come be thering me. haven't time to fool around about that hawg. He was woth \$2, and I want the cash. This ain't no file, but 1

think it'll help my claim along." With the words he logged out a big myy revolver, and pointed it at the agent's ead, and the latter turned ten shades whiter as he said: "Weil, what are you going to do?"

"Collect my hawg money." "I told you to put in a claim." ye did, and yere it is. I claim \$2, and I want it in about two minits!" "I tobt you that all claims went to Wilmington." persisted the agent, as he

ried to get out of range. "And I told ye it was too fur, and I was in a burry. It's \$2 for my hawg or I'll poll trigger!" A scoreof passengers had gathered around

the door, but no one interfered. The agent hesitated a moment, and then handed ver \$2, with the queryt "About fity, sah."
"All liable to be killed?"

"All liable, sah, and I shall hold you esponsible for each and every one." "I'll be hanged if you do. I thought I had a soft snap here but that bog racket eats me, and I'll send in my resignation conight Work the next man on your forty nine remaining bogs."

The Destruction of Our Forests. I suppose We need not go mourning the buffaloes. In the nature of things they had to give place to better cattle, though the change might have been made without barbarous wickedness. Likewise many of mature's five hundred kinds of wild trees had to make way for orchards and corn-fields. In the settlement and civilization of the country, bread more than timber or beauty was wanted and in the blindness of honger, the early settlers, claiming Heaven as their guide, regarded God's trees as only a larger kind of pernicions weeds, extremely hard to get rid of. As cordingly, with no eye to the future, these pious destroyers Waged interminable forest wars, chips flew thick and fast, trees in their beauty fell crashing by millions amashed to confusion, and the smoke of their burning has been rising to heaven more than two hundred years. After the Atlantic coast from Maine to Georgia had been mostly cleared and scorched inelancholy ruins, the overflowing multitude of bread and money seekers poured over the Alleghenies into the fertile mimile West, spreading ruthless devastation ever wider and farther over the rich valley of he Mississippl and the vast shadowy pine region about the great inkes. Thence still westward the invading hordes of destroyers called settlers made its fiery way over the broad Rocky Mountains, felling and burning more fiercely than ever, until at last it has reached the wild side of the continent, and entered the last of the great aboriginal forests on the shores of the Pacific. - August Atlantic.

Her Taste.

A gentleman heard that a young girl whose mother was in poor circumstances was convalescing from a dangerous sick iess. Forthwith he went to a fruiterer' and secured some choice bunches of Ham-burg grapes at \$1 or thereabouts a pound He carried them, not without some self-satisfaction, to the house of the invalid, and left them with her mother, who received them in a dubious kind of manner that did not evince, he thought, much gratitude. This did not trouble him greatly, however but the next day when he called he re neived a blow which almost made him resolve never again to be generous to strang

"How did yourdaughter like the grapes? he said to the grim and undemonstrative matron.

"Oh, pretty well," was the reluctant answer. "Hid she eat them all?" was the nexquery.

"Yes, she got away with them," was the reply. "But she is a good deal like me; she likes something nice and tasty-like canne corn." -Sacred Heart Review.

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